

What is claimed is:

1. A small form factor disk drive for use in an appliance, which disk drive comprises:
 - a connector side, a removal side, and a lateral side; and
 - 5 a gripping mechanism affixed to a lateral side of the disk drive; wherein a portion of the gripping mechanism extends beyond the removal side.
2. The small form factor disk drive of claim 1 wherein the gripping mechanism is affixed to cover substantially all of the lateral side.
- 10 3. The small form factor disk drive of claim 1 wherein the portion is a pull tab that is strong enough so that it may be gripped to extract the small form factor disk drive from the appliance.
4. The small form factor disk drive of claim 3 wherein the pull tab is thin enough not to interfere with normal operation of the appliance.
- 15 5. The small form factor disk drive of claim 4 wherein the pull tab is flexible enough to be folded by a door of the appliance when it is inserted therein.
6. The small form factor disk drive of claim 5 wherein the pull tab is resilient that it resumes its shape after the door is opened.
7. The small form factor disk drive of claim 1 wherein the gripping
20 mechanism is affixed with an adhesive.
8. The small form factor disk drive of claim 1 wherein the gripping mechanism is about 0.025 mm thick.
9. The small form factor disk drive of claim 3 wherein the pull tab includes protuberances.
- 25 10. The small form factor disk drive of claim 3 wherein a surface of the pull tab has high friction.